Executive Proclamation

State of South Dakota
Office of the Governor

Whereas, The National Alcohol and Drug Addiction Recovery Month (Recovery Month) is celebrating its 20th year of observance in September 2009; and,

Whereas, This year's theme, "*Join the Voices for Recovery: Together We Learn, Together We Heal*" emphasizes the need to use all available resources, both in our communities and on the Internet, to educate people about the disease of addiction, to seek help, and to heal; and,

Whereas, According to the 2007 National Survey on Drug Use and Health (NSDUH), published by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), 23.2 million persons aged 12 or older (9.4 percent of persons aged 12 or older) needed treatment for an illicit drug or alcohol use problem; and,

Whereas, According to the 2008 South Dakota Client Services Summary published by the Department of Human Services, Division of Alcohol and Drug Abuse, 15,146 South Dakotans received chemical dependency services through 58 accredited treatment facilities in the state of South Dakota, and of this amount, admission data shows that 21 percent reported their first use of alcohol and/or drugs prior to or at the age of 12; and,

Whereas, Health care, addiction treatment, and recovery services for those in need are national and South Dakota priorities, and South Dakota wants to partner with SAMHSA to increase the number of available treatment options through a consumer driven approach; and,

Whereas, It is critical we educate South Dakotans that substance use disorders are treatable, yet serious health care problems, and by treating them like other chronic diseases, we can improve the quality of life for the entire community; and,

Whereas, To help achieve this goal, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, the White House Office of National Drug Control Policy, and the South Dakota Department of Human Services and the Division of Alcohol and Drug Abuse invite all residents of South Dakota to participate in Alcohol and Drug Addiction Recovery Month:

Now, Therefore, I, M. Michael Rounds, Governor of the state of South Dakota, do hereby proclaim September 2009 as

ALCOHOL & DRUG ADDICTION RECOVERY MONTH

in South Dakota.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the State of South Dakota, in Pierre, the Capital City, this Fifth Day of August in the Year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Nine.

M. Michael Rounds

M. Michael Rounds, Governor

Attest:

Chris Nelson

Chris Nelson, Secretary of State